

Message Text

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44

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 PM-04

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00

SAB-01 L-03 H-02 PRS-01 /051 W

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O 091715Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5061

INFO PANCANAL IMMEDIATE

USCINCSO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 5505

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY VEYSEY, CHAIRMAN, PANAMA
CANAL NEGOTIATIONS WORKING GROUP, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, FROM BELL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PN

SUBJECT: U.S.-PANAMA TREATY NEGOTIATIONS: UNILATERAL ACTIONS

I.

THIS IS MESSAGE NO. 3 FROM THE NEGOTIATORS APPLICABLE TO THE
SEPTEMBER 1975 NEGOTIATING ROUND.

II.

A. AS PREDICTED IN MESSAGE NO. 2, TORRIJOS SENT WORD LAST
NIGHT VIA GONZALEZ-REVILLA THAT HE ANTICIPATED AMBASSADOR BUNKER
WOULD FOLLOW UP ON GENERAL BROWN'S "COMMITMENT" BY ADVISING
OF OUR PROPOSALS FOR UNILATERAL ACTIONS IN HIS REMARKS INTRODUC-
ING THE NEW NEGOTIATING OFFER TODAY.

B. I SAID I DID NOT BELIEVE GENERAL BROWN MEANT TO IMPLY
THAT WE COULD ACT SO QUICKLY. GONZALEZ-REVILLA REPLIED THAT HE
DID MORE THAN IMPLY IT--HE STATED IT, IN TORRIJOS' RECOL-
LECTION. HE EMPHASIZED THAT TORRIJOS WOULD SURELY BE
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"EXTREMELY DISTURBED" IF THE AMBASSADOR DID NOT TAKE THE

INITIATIVE IN MENTIONING THE MATTER, AND WOULD REGARD IT AS
A RENEGING ON GENERAL BROWN'S WORD. I REPLIED THAT IT WOULD BE
NOTHING OF THE SORT; THAT AMBASSADOR BUNKER WAS NOT ABOUT
TO BRING UP A MATTER ON WHICH THE UNITED STATES DID NOT HAVE
A CLEAR POSITION TO OFFER FOR PANAMA'S CONSIDERATION; AND
THAT BADGERING US ABOUT THIS MATTER WOULD NOT HELP IT ALONG.

(AMBASSADOR JORDEN'S COMMENT: RE ABOVE, I HAVE JUST TALKED
WITH BELL AND NOTED THAT HAVING BEEN PRESENT AT MEETING IN
QUESTION I COULD ASSURE HIM--AND HE COULD ASSURE PANAMANIAN--
THAT NO SUCH QUOTE COMMITMENT UNQUOTE WAS MADE BY GENERAL BROWN.
WHAT THE GENERAL SAID WAS THAT HE WAS CERTAIN THAT BUNKER IN
THE COMING NEGOTIATING SESSIONS WOULD HAVE VERY MUCH IN MIND
WAYS TO MAKE REAL THE GENERAL PHILOSOPHY OF INCREASED COOPERATION
AND UNDERSTANDING. BUT THERE WAS NO IMPLICATION THAT BUNKER
WOULD BE MAKING SPECIFIC PROPOSALS, CERTAINLY NOT IN THE EARLY
STAGES OF THE CONTADORA TALKS. END COMMENT.)
JORDEN

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